



**NEURODIVERSITY FOUNDATION**

BRIDGING THE GAP FOR ALL NEUROTYPES TO THRIVE

# Neurodiversity is a competitive advantage.

Being able to embrace diversity in all its forms is a key aspect of life in the 21st century.

## **PREPARED BY**

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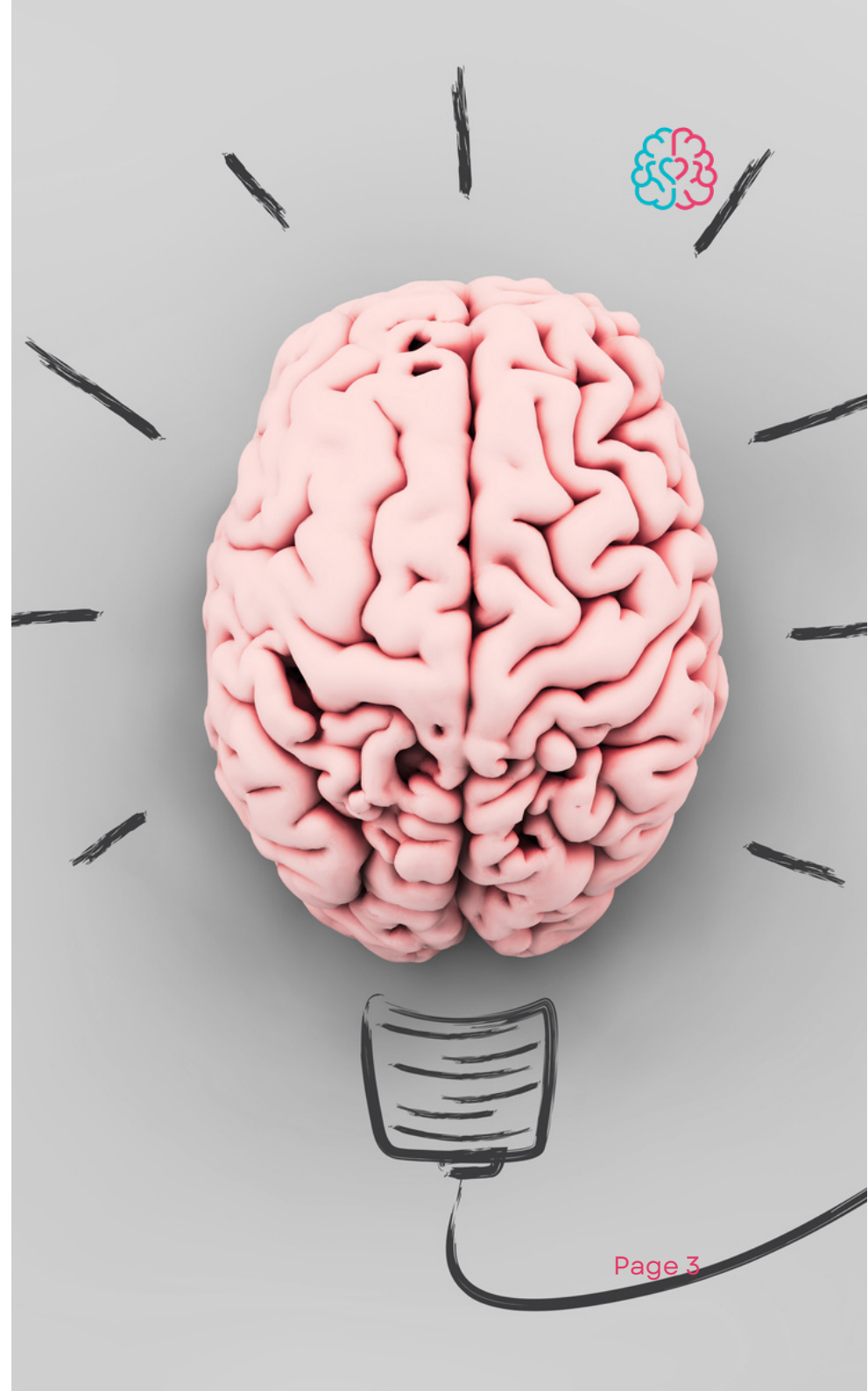
## OUR VISION

The Neurodiversity Foundation aims to bridge the gaps between neurodivergents and neurotypicals in order to create a neuroinclusive society that embraces all types of minds.

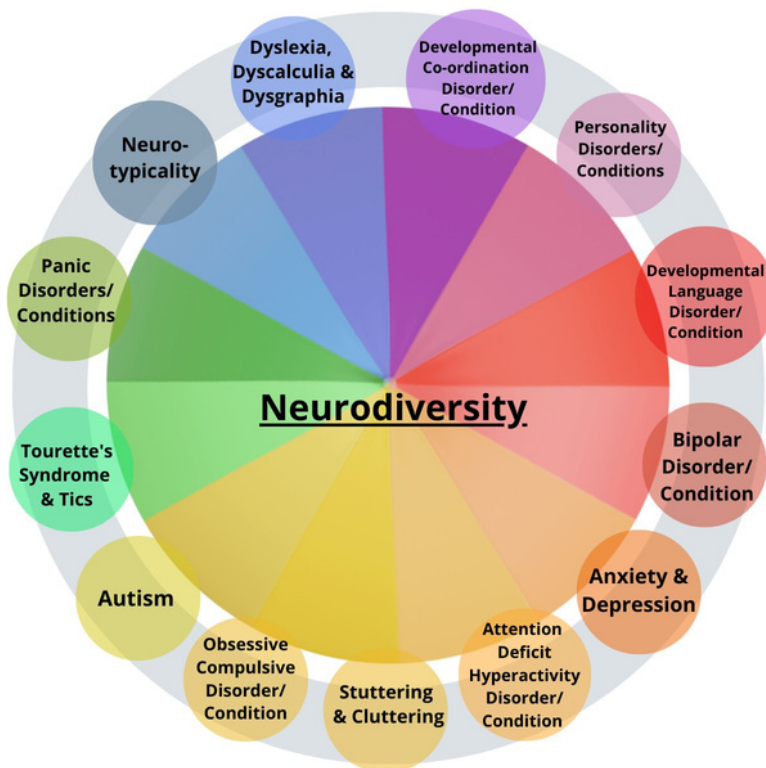
We believe that each brain contributes a unique beauty to this world, and we work to enhance society to enable all neurodivergents to thrive in life.

## OUR MISSION

To make positive societal impact, creating projects, tools, events that facilitate and promote neurodiversity in our 4 areas of focus as the leading organization locally, and as significant player globally.



# NEURODIVERSITY means all of us.



Understanding neurodiversity makes everything better.

Neurodiversity means all of us.

We need all types of minds to solve our problems.

Each unique mind brings useful talents to the table.

Neuroinclusion of differences, makes any team stronger.

We need friends of all types in our life and work.

Neurodiversity is the new pillar of inclusion, in workplaces, in schools, and in our personal lives.

Understanding neurodiversity makes a person a better colleague, a better friend, a better leader, a better you.





## Who We Are



### **Tjerk Feitsma, Director Neurodiversity Foundation**

Born brazen, Tjerk has 15 years of experience in boldly creating ambitious projects, social impact companies, teams and charitable foundations gravitating around the idea we can make this world a better place, when we utilize ourselves as the catalysts of change. Sociologist by education, autistic by mind, kind by nature, he gets the nickname of "titanium spine", which is fueled with neverending idealism, and a person who is inspired by the love he sees in everyday people.



### **Lana Jelenjev, Chairperson of the Board NDF, co-founder Neurodiversity Education Academy (NEA)**

With more than 20 years experience in the field of educational consultancy, curriculum design and learning experience design, Lana brings her wealth of experience, dedication and passion in creating educational reforms to NEA. Her wish is to see equitable, inclusive and progressive schools that greatly amplify learners' strengths. She loves facilitating spaces for conversations around the themes of giftedness, neurodiversity, strengths-based curriculum design and community building.



### **Saskia Wenniger Co-founder, Programs and Coaching Lead, NEA**

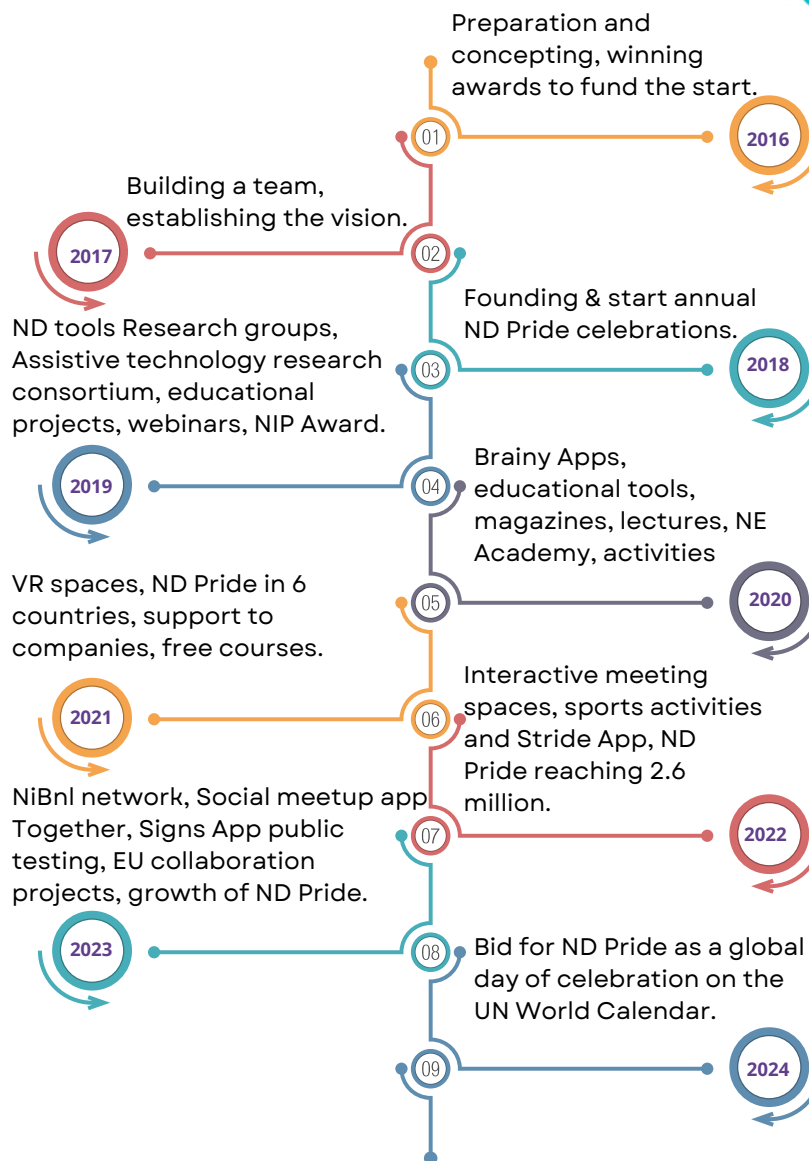
Saskia is a learning designer, a media scholar and Strengths based life coach specializing in ADHD. She adores learning, interacting in communities of practice and collaborating with people who have similar interests and values, especially when it comes to co creating a more (neuro)diversity friendly future that can uplift the next generations into solving the problems of the future together.



## HOW WE STARTED

The Neurodiversity Foundation started as a dream in 2016, because we wanted the world to become a better and more inclusive place for all neurodivergent individuals, regardless of their specific neurotype. At that time, very few people were using these words or understood the concept of neurodiversity. We wanted a kinder world, that understood what our differences are, what makes all of us so beautiful.

We created a non-profit foundation in 2018 with both a local and international focus.



NEURODIVERSITY IS A COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

# WE ARE PROUD OF/ON OUR NEURODIVERSITY PRIDE DAY!

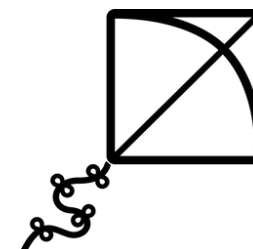
NOW ON IT'S 7TH YEAR OF CELEBRATION!

Neurodiversity Pride Day is the international day of celebration of all neurodivergent people, with multiple events, online, in VR and "in person" during the week around June 16th. It's celebrated in 9 countries in the 6th edition, reaching more than a million. The day has been founded by the Neurodiversity Foundation in 2018.

Neurodiversity Pride Day 2024 will be organized again with activities from 10-17th of June. During Neurodiversity Pride Day, we celebrate neurodivergent uniqueness and the value of neurodiversity in society; a day to appreciate all who are neurologically distinct. Celebrated worldwide, its a day created by and for neurodivergents, and those who love us; our allies and organisations with a neuroinclusive mindset.

There are 'ND Pride traditions', like the flag, the logo and the overall focus on positivity. The most important tradition of the day, is to create a moment for each neurodivergent to self reflect on the unique beauty they bring to the world.

NEURODIVERSITY FOUNDATION





# Why Work with Us?

**The core pillars of our work with educators, teams, schools, companies, organizations and communities.**



## **Awareness and Pride**

Part of our advocacy is to introduce, promote and engage people around the concept of Neurodiversity as a way of thinking into mainstream society. Our desire is to reframe perceptions and acceptance around neurodiversity as a competitive advantage for society. We promote self-acceptance, belonging, awareness and pride with our national and international events.



## **Education and Belonging**

Amplifying the skills and competencies needed by families, schools, companies, organizations and communities through learning materials, workshops, trainings, webinars and online courses. Fostering neuroinclusive families, classrooms, organizations and communities through the Neurodiversity Education Academy.





# Why Work with Us?

**The core pillars of our work with educators, teams, schools, companies, organizations and communities.**



## **Research and Innovation**

Developing clear call to action in our pathway for change through research and collaborative projects with educational institutions, Erasmus+ and other agencies. We also develop assistive technology for neurodiverse communication.

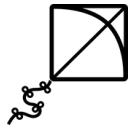


## **Network and Collaboration**

We connect and collaborate with different organizations, institutions and communities that are advocating for neuroinclusion. We also support in introducing neurodiversity to organizations.



# Our Projects



## Neurodiversity Pride Day Celebrations

Day of Pride celebrating neurodivergent uniqueness and the value of neurodiversity, worldwide.



## Neurodiversity Education Academy

Educational branch creating workshops, magazines and tools supporting schools. Creating a community for late diagnosed NDs.



## Athens Research Consortium

Delivering the first personal sign language AI, translator and messenger, focused on neurodivergent families.



## NeuroEmergence

A 3 day immersive online Summit, with workshops, keynotes and talks about Neurodiversity and Brain Awareness.



# Our Projects



## Neuroinclusive Politician Award/ND Advocacy and Political Lobby

Nomination, evaluation and awarding of the winning most ND Friendly politician. Supporting politicians to make neuroinclusive legislations



## Brain Awareness Week Celebrations

Promoting understanding and awareness of our amazing and creative brains as part of Brain Awareness Week International celebrations.



## Neurodiversity In Business

Founding members of Neurodiversity in Business- The Netherlands. Aimed at promoting Neuroinclusion in the workplace.

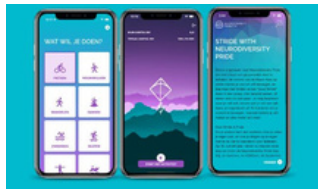


## ND Alliance & Advisory in workplaces

Creation of endorsed social support systems in organizations for ND workers. Advising organizations to be more Neuroinclusive.



# Our Projects



## **Stride Sports Program**

Shared sports achievement action for neurodivergents, tracked with Stride App



## **Neurodance**

Event for neurodivergents to dance and meet each other socially



## **Brainy App**

The Brainy App allows you to become more aware of your own 'Brain Strengths' and the activities you do to promote it. This was created as part of the Brain Awareness Week Celebration.



## **Neurodiversity Friendly Schools Program**

This program is for teachers and schools that are interested in improving their learning environment to suit more children and support them to grow.



# Our Projects



## Publications & Video Presentations

We create training and educational tools for schools and organizations. Our publications include My Amazing Brain, My Creative Brain, and What's STRONG With You? We also have a rich library of video presentations from prominent speakers.



## Strengths-Based Questions Card Deck

40 Strengths-Based Questions to help you get into strengths-based conversations with your family, team, students, and members of the community.



## What's STRONG With You? From Deficits to Strengths

A 20+ tools, reflection and activity worksheets, and resource cards that you can use to:

- Notice how you use your strengths
- Recognize patterns in leading and engaging with your strengths
- Make your strengths visible in your day-to-day life



## Brain Strengths Card Deck

Tool for facilitators, trainers, coaches, teachers and team leaders to use in naming and identifying strengths in their environments.





# Our Community and Collaborative Projects



## **ND Online Community Gatherings Powered by HyHyve**

Monthly online community gatherings hosted in HyHyve platform.



## **Erasmus+**

### **Collaborations with other NGOs on Erasmust+ Projects**

We are currently part of the Hopeland Project (Greece) and the Barefoot Coaching Program in partnership with 3 other European countries.



# Upcoming & Ongoing Projects



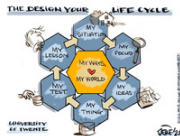
## Autvinder

New innovative project to find and award the best autistic inventor of the nation.



## Together

Social meetup for neurodivergents to make inviting another neurodivergent to do something together in a safe way.



## DesignYour Life (Toolkit for Young Autistics)

Solution driven toolkit for young autistics and translations. This is done in collaboration with Design Your Life Consortium



## Lobbying for Neurodiversity in the EU

Promoting Neurodiversity as one of the pillars of diversity in the European Union.



## Mikel Rijsdijk Grant

The 4th edition of the Mikel Rijsdijk Memorial Grant enables neurodivergents with a financial barrier with free coaching, support and products



## Our Dream

Our vision is a society that recognizes the importance of neurodiversity, amplifies strengths and provides accessibility to all neurotypes.

We believe that it is crucial for society to create neurodiverse friendly homes, schools and workplaces that support all neurotypes.

**We dream of a world where representation is omnipresent.**

**A place where neurodivergents can find and connect with wonderful role models, of people who leveraged their differences and succeeded.**





# Our Offerings



## Workshops and Learning Labs

We offer public workshops and learning sessions on various topics ranging from Brain Awareness, Strengths-Based Practices, Designing Neuroinclusive Spaces, and also Social and Emotional Awareness and Support.



## Personal and Leadership Coaching

We partner with qualified coaches that can provide support for team members, leaders, HR, managers, teachers, and other members of schools, companies, or organizations.



## In-House Trainings and Consultancy (Bespoke)

We offer bespoke training for schools, organizations, and companies based on current needs and also offer more in-depth support on designing, assessing, and implementing neuroinclusive practices.



## Keynote Speech

We believe that it is crucial for society to create neurodiverse-friendly homes, schools, and workplaces that support all neurotypes. We provide keynote speeches for events, summits or gatherings to introduce and inspire actions toward more neuroinclusivity in the workspace.



# Topics for Talks/Presentations

Here are some of the topics\* that we can give presentations, keynote address, or workshops for schools, organizations, businesses and communities:

- Introduction to Neurodiversity
- From Disability to Divergence: Why Understanding Neurodiversity is Important For All
- Your Brain is Not a Machine, It's an Ecosystem (Brain Awareness)
- Fostering a Culture of Empathy, Belonging and Neuroinclusion
- Designing Neuroinclusive Work Spaces
- The Power of Neurodiversity in the Workplace
- What's Strong With You? From Deficits to Strengths
- Making Your Executive Functioning Skills Work For You
- Rewiring Our Brain to Lead With Our Strengths
- Designing Neuroinclusive Classrooms/Workplaces Through Compassionate Communication
- Harness the Power of Growth Mindset
- The Importance of Niche Creation
- Strengths-Based Approaches to Neurodiversity
- Bridging the Gap: Designing Neuroinclusive Spaces Where All Neurotypes Thrive

\*More topics on the next page





# Topics for Talks/Presentations

Additional topics that for presentations, keynote address, or workshops for schools, organizations, businesses and communities:

- About the projects, vision and mission of the Neurodiversity Foundation in NL, the 4 pillars, NEA, ND Pride, Athens
- About keywords, neurotypes, neurodivergent issues in society, the discovery process and why its so hard to 'come out as ND'
- Neurodiverse teams versus NT teams: The good & the bad: What's the difference?
- I'm Neurodivergent: Ask Me Anything
- 10 steps to understanding neurodiversity in your own life
- 10 things to understand about a neuroinclusive workplace
- 10 thing I have learned in the field of neurodiversity
- 10 misconceptions that are still damaging NDs
- 10 things to know from working with a neurodiverse workforce
- 10 things you can do to make your organization a more neuroinclusive place of work
- 10 strength-based questions to ask yourself and your teammates.
- 10 wisdoms to guide your thinking
- 9 guiding principles to the strength based approach & importance of this approach



# How to Support Us

Making the world a better place is very expensive. We need the funds to do our works, and to enable us to do more. We hope for you support.

We seek corporate **‘friends’** that generously sign up for a partnership or sponsorship, thereby allowing the costs of our ongoing work to be covered while our ambition and impacts continues growing.

**Sponsorships** help us organize specific activities as a one-time donation.

**Partnerships** enable us with ongoing funds to grow our organization.



# PARTNERSHIPS

In partnership we want to help our “friends” to move forward. In partnerships we accept donations and offer services as gifts to the partner, that contribute, enhance or support the organization in matters specific to neurodiversity. The partner can choose which ‘annual gift’ suits their needs best during their partnership. Each partner will be offered a partnership conversation to explore the best option. The level of the partnership influences the amount or type of support and/or services we provide.

**GOLD**  
**€ 5.000**

## BENEFITS

A keynote address by the founder or the chair for a company event.

Supporting the creation of a ND network in the organization.

Workshop, online or offline, on neurodiversity or related topics.

**PLATINUM**  
**€ 10.000**

## BENEFITS

Multi session training, online or offline, on neurodiversity and/or related topics.

Management coaching on neurodiversity, individually or as a group.

Conflict mediation and career/life coaching

**GRAPHENE**  
**€50.000**

## BENEFITS

All of Gold and Platinum perks plus:  
Feedback and/or revision on job hiring policies and/or recruitment materials.

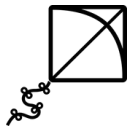
Policy evaluation or suggestions

Services custom to the needs of the partner



# SPONSORSHIPS

In sponsorship we embrace generosity as a way allowing us to fix the world. In order to create activities like Neurodiversity Pride Day, we need sponsors to enable us to cover the costs for organizing. Sponsors will be named and thanked for their contribution, with their logo on website and/or marketing materials. We seek for sponsorships for:



## **Support Neurodiversity Pride Day**

Neurodiversity Pride Day celebrations are the worlds only day of pride celebrating the uniqueness of all neurodivergent individuals, and their value to society at large.



## **Support Neurodiversity Education Academy**

Neurodiversity Education Academy supports teachers, facilitators, coaches, parents, and professionals in fostering and designing for neuroinclusive systems and societies.



## **Support Neurodiversity Foundation**

The Neurodiversity Foundation jumpstarts the move towards a society that embraces all types of minds.





**The world needs all types of minds.**





# Talk to Us

Let us support you and your family, school, business, organization, or community.



## Websites:

<https://neurodiversiteit.nl/>

<https://www.neurodiversityeducationacademy.org>

[www.neurodiversityprideday.com](http://www.neurodiversityprideday.com)



## E-mail

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